

ST. MARK'S VESTRY
MINUTES OF 6/18/13 MEETING

CORRECTED AND APPROVED

*Working through God's love to eliminate
spiritual and physical hunger.*

CONVENED: 6:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Nancy Wheatley, Gerry Stackhouse, Larry Chase, Barb Farris, Judy Peterson, Jean Kracker, The Very Rev. Rebecca Crise and Dawn Brisbane, Vestry Clerk.

VISITOR: Jim Lytle

OPENING MEDITATION/REFLECTION: Mo. Rebecca

Spiritual Life:

- Safeguarding God's Children/People: *pending*
- Confirmation/Reception: *pending*
- Training for Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Officiants for M.P., Acolytes: *see calendar*
- Greeters/Users Training - Mother Rebecca has met with Joan Copeland and others to review the policies.

Kingdom Work:

- Living Compass: no outside attendees, but 12 were in attendance at first session. Mother Rebecca said she spoke with one of the facilitators, Eva Jerome, who said they had a great first session. Just need to keep doing more of these type of things to bring the community in.
- This Fall - What's Going On?
 - * Wine and Harvest Festival on 9/6, 9/7, 9/8 - do we want to be in the parade? Sounds like a good project for the men's group. Jim Lytle said he would bring this up to the men's group. They will decorate the trailer.
 - * Blessing of the Animals: Plan on October 6 in afternoon - 3:00 pm; Nancy said she can make treat bags for the animals. Nancy will work with Mother Rebecca on this. In addition to advertising in the community, Nancy suggested that we ask the Michigan State Police to bring their dogs and also ask the Van Buren County Posse to bring their horses for a blessing.
- Vacation Bible School update: not a participating church this year; but will be donating \$100 which was approved at the May meeting.
- Alms' Box: Need to remind the congregation where the money will go. We will put up a sign with the box and also a reminder in the oral announcements.

Parish Life:

- Building and Grounds: Anything to report? Jean said the group hasn't met. She will get with Don Prediger and a meeting will be scheduled.
 - * Handicap Accessibility - discussion about what we need to do - suggestion that a task force be assembled by those interested in the congregation to work on this. Judy Peterson moves that we form a task force to study the issue on the handicap accessibility of the building and to report to the vestry on a regular basis with a plan. Nancy Wheatley seconded the motion. Further discussion. Motion approved. Jim Lytle said he will be responsible for the progress on this issue. Judy said she will be glad to be the vestry liaison.
 - * Columbarium: update - Tom Fetterley will be doing the painting and then the columbarium will be brought back from St. Luke's.
- Cedar Street Church signage:
 - * The sign from the 201 building gathering area which was in Larry's barn has been brought in and needs to be installed over the door.
 - * Judy reviewed the memo she passed out regarding the information she and Jim Lytle gathered concerning local zoning ordinances for signs on the church. Judy said that the village manager confirmed that the west side of the building is not considered "street frontage". A new 4x6 sign will be installed on the west side of building where the existing sign/banner is now. Chris and Jan Terrill will create this and donate their labor. Jim Lytle is working on the QR code for that sign. It will cost about \$175 for the sign materials. Nancy moves that the vestry allocate up to \$300 for the sign on the west side of the building. Jean seconded. Discussion. Motion approved.
 - * Antique sign: Chris Terrill looked at this and thought that it could not be restored for placement outside - too much damage to it. And it still needs to have the glass replaced. Perhaps it can hang it as a decoration somewhere inside. (Jim Lytle took it with him - he will have someone take a look at it.) If the antique sign cannot be used, we will still need to have signage on the front of the building.

Church Business and Support:

- * Audit: Barb said the committee is formed - need to observe 10% of the receipts and the checks - have to look at them all. Barb will get with Larry for the church accounts and with the other treasurers who handle the other accounts.

Gerry will contact the Diocesan counsel, Bill Fleener, about sending a letter to UCS/Eleanor Miller, regarding UCS using St. Mark's tax exempt status. If UCS is listed under our tax exempt status then we are liable for everything written and all money has to be under the control of the vestry - all UCS checking accounts should be here. Therefore, USC needs to have a separate 501c3 and separate checking account. Will advise that the bishop and the financial canon have asked us to clear this up.

- * Calendar:
 - June 19 - Living Compass program begins - will go through July 24th
 - June 22 - Worship assistants training
 - June 23 - Music selection meeting
 - June 26 - Diocesan Council Meeting - Grand Rapids
 - June 28 - Mo. Rebecca CE at Transformations
 - July 1-31 - Mo. Rebecca is on-call Chaplin for Bronson Lakeview
 - July 7 - Prayer service at Lakeview Nursing Home and White Oaks
 - July 13 - Mo. Rebecca CE at Transformations
 - July 16 - Vestry meeting
 - July 17 - ECW annual picnic
 - July 20 - Eucharistic Visitor and Worship Leader training
 - July 24 - Miller Court chapel service
- * Acceptance of May Minutes: Gerry Stackhouse moved that the May minutes be accepted with corrections. Nancy Wheatley seconded the motion. Vote. Motion approved.
- * Treasurer's Report: Larry reviewed. Monthly pledges are down. Suggestion that a reminder could be put in the bulletin. Larry said that we will be sending out 6-month statements soon and that will be a gentle reminder. Judy Peterson moved that the Treasurer's Report be placed on file. Gerry Stackhouse seconded the motion. Vote. Motion approved.
- * Mo. Rebecca will prepare the sign for the alms box.

- * Mo. Rebecca will find out if churches are exempt from the ADA requirements.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, July 16, 2013, at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNED: Mother Rebecca closed our meeting with a prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn L. Brisbane
Vestry Clerk